

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TRIPOL 01125 042228Z

65

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 128749

O R 042147Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2565

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 1125

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ENRG

SUBJECT: OCCIDENTAL DISPUTE WITH LIBYA

REF: STATE 237248

1. IN ADDITION TO AMERICAN WHO WAS TURNED BACK AT AIRPORT, WE ARE AWARE OF ONE BRITISH SUBJECT WHO WAS PREVENTED FROM LEAVING BY IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES AT AIRPORT. SINCE COMPANY HAS ASKED ITS EMPLOYEES NOT TO TRY TO TEST THE ORDER, THERE ARE NOT LIKELY TO BE OTHER CASES, UNLESS AN EMERGENCY ARISES. APART FROM THIS, OXY PRESIDENT ESPEY HAS REPORTED TO US OIL MINISTER MABROUK'S STATEMENT TO HIM THAT OXY EXPATR STEDSARE FORBIDDEN TO LEAVE LIBYA, AND WE ARE RELYING ON ESPEY'S WORD. IT IS TRUE THAT WE HAVE RECEIVED NO OFFICIAL, REPEAT OFFICIAL, CONFIRMATION OF ORDER, BUT THERE IS NO DOUBT ORDER WAS ISSUED.

2. EXCEPT FOR TOP MANAGEMENT, OXY EMPLOYEES ARE NOT WORKING AT THE MOMENT SINCE THE COUNTRY IS IN THE MIDST OF A FIVE DAY HOLIDAY. THOSE OXY EMPLOYEES WE SPOKE TO TODAY INTENDED TO REPORT FOR WORK NORMALLY ON OCTOBER 8. THEY ARE TAKING SITUATION IN STRIDE.

3. ORDER PREVENTING NON-LIBYAN OXY EMPLOYEES FROM TRAVELLING IS SEEN HERE AS RETALIATION FOR OXY'S DECISION NOT TO
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MAKE END OF MONTH PAYMENT FOR BUYBACK CRUDE. LARG MAY FIND

SOME SORT OF
LEGAL JUSTIFICATION AFTER THE FACT SUCH AS THAT
CITED IN PARA TWO OF REFTL, BUT LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS ARE
NOT CONTROLLING FACTOR.
STEIN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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